

THE REAL JESUS REAL REJECTION [LUKE 7:31-35]

Rejection happens no matter when truth is presented

v 31 *And the Lord said, "To what then shall I liken the men of this generation, and what are they like?"*

- The focus here is on **generation** (γενεά **genea** - an age, a time, an era, a people). Jesus is speaking directly to His contemporaries; those who were living at that time.

- In reality, Jesus' jab at His generation is really a jab at all generations who reject the message of salvation.

v 32 *They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, saying: 'We played the flute for you, And you did not dance; We mourned to you, And you did not weep.'*

- In ancient times, when the **marketplace** (αγορά **agora** - any assembly of people) wasn't full of vendors and shops, the open space was the perfect playground for children.

- **Flutes / dancing** were associated in the OT with celebration feasts, where there was joy, happiness, and gladness.

- The epitome of **mourning** and **weeping** is a funeral. These terms represent intense and serious emotional pain and grief.

Rejection happens no matter how truth is packaged

v 33 *For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.'*

- John was a social outcast. **He came neither eating bread nor drinking wine.** He wasn't a normal member of society who ate and drank like everyone else.

v 34 *The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'*

John would have never been caught dead associating himself with **sinners, tax collectors**, and the religious elite, this is all Jesus spent His time doing.

- The descriptive terminology that they pinned on Jesus relates directly to the opposite effect of who John was: **Glutton** (φάγος **phagos** - voracious) and **winebibber** (οινοπότης **oinopotes** - wino)

- Jesus presents these two extremes because his point is that it doesn't matter how truth is presented, people are still going to be discontent.

v 35 *But wisdom is justified by all her children.*

- And what is the wisdom (σοφία **sophia** - supreme godly intelligence) that Jesus is speaking of? The wisdom of salvation, the wisdom of revelation. This is spiritual wisdom.

- Jesus finishes by saying that this **wisdom is justified by all her children.**

In other words: "The proof is in the pudding!"